

Notice of Allowability

Application No.	Applicant(s)
10/613,498	GERMAGIAN ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit
Adi Amrany	2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to RCE filed 11 January 2007.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5,7-14 and 16-25.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16-25 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 1, the prior art does not teach or suggest a power adapter comprising, inter alia, a selector circuit configured to control a switch depending on the voltage input level and the voltage input type (AC vs. DC), and a low-voltage cutout circuit, wherein the value of the low-voltage cutout threshold is determined by a peak inverse voltage of a zener diode within the low-voltage cutout circuit.

With respect to claim 7, the prior art does not teach or suggest a power supply system comprising, inter alia, a power adapter configured to provide low DC voltage to DC voltage converter circuitry and high AC voltage to AC voltage converter circuitry, and a low voltage cutout circuit, wherein the value of the low-voltage cutout threshold is determined by a peak inverse voltage of a zener diode within the low-voltage cutout circuit.

With respect to claim 14, the prior art does not teach or suggest a portable power supply comprising a power adapter and low-voltage cutout circuit, as stated above.

With respect to claim 20, the prior art does not teach or suggest a method of providing DC power, comprising the step of automatically decoupling the received input power from the high-voltage apparatus and the low-voltage apparatus if the input power has a voltage below an second threshold, wherein the value of the second threshold is based on a peak inverse voltage of a zener diode.

In the final rejection (September 6, 2006), the low-voltage cutout circuit was rejected over the diode rectifiers shown in Smith (US 5,499,187). This rejection has been withdrawn since the low-voltage cutout was an incidental byproduct of the rectifier and was not the overall purpose of the Smith diodes. The Smith selector circuit does not include any circuitry to cutout low voltage from reaching the switch.

Lee (US 5,245,220) discloses a power adapter comprising a switch (figures 1, 2, item 3) and a selector circuit (item 2). Lee further discloses that the selector circuit comprises at least four zener diodes. These zener diodes, however, are not mentioned or discussed in the specification and their purpose is unclear.

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adi Amrany whose telephone number is (571) 272-0415. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays, from 9am-5pm.

Art Unit: 2836

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571) 272-2800 x36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AA



ROBERT L. DEBERARDINIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER